

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 4, Folder 26

June 12, 1972 -
December 29, 1972

0537

12 Mount Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island 02840
12 June 1972

Dear Mr. Kirsch:

I have your letter of 19 April at hand. Actually I received it long ago but I only re-discovered it this morning.

I wish now to send orchids as follows:

- a. TO: Mr. Howard Cushing
The Ledges
Ocean Avenue
Newport, Rhode Island 02840
- b. TO: Mrs. Gurnee Dyer
Farmlands
Wapping Road
Portsmouth, Rhode Island 02871
- c. TO: Mrs. Stuart Ingersoll
Bois Dore
Narragansett Avenue
Newport, Rhode Island 02840
- d. TO: Mrs. Richard Sheffield
255 Indian Avenue
Middletown, Rhode Island 02840

The first three of the above have orchid hot houses - the fourth one, Mrs. Sheffield, does not. She raises her orchids, which are standard types, on her porch which is of glass on three sides. I would send her an orchid which can live under such conditions.

With my warmest Aloha to Hawaii's premium orchid raiser, I am,

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Mr. Oscar M. Kirsch
2869 Oahu Avenue
Honolulu 14, Hawaii

0538

28 August 1972

Dear Dick:

I was sorry that we did not make contact again before you left. I tried to get you and your aide said that you would call me back (on the day before you left) at between 1700 to 1715. I waited, but no call. Obviously, you were very busy indeed.

Tennis week has been very gay - too gay in fact. This was due in part to the tennis (the best women players in the world, operating under the Virginia Slims Cigarette label, as it were).

The weather has been good but quite humid so most people seemed to be irritable.

I'm sending you these newspaper clippings, notably the Admiral Turner Convocation address. About 1200 people were present.

My best Aloha -

As ever,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Admiral Richard G. Colbert, USN
Commander in Chief
AFSOUTH, Box 130
Fleet Post Office
New York 09524

RWB/vjh

0539

13 Sep 72

A NAVAL WAR COLLEGE NECKTIE

TO ADMIRAL ELMO R. ZUMWALT, JR., USN
(A Graduate of the Class of 1953)

The Blue background represents the
Naval War College
The Stripes represent the students at
the Naval War College

The White represents the civilians
The Red represents the Marines
The Khaki represents the Army
The Light Blue represents the
Air Force and,
The wide Gold stripe represents the
Navy.

This tie was designed, because the
foreign officers, of the Naval Command
College, desired something that they could
wear at military meetings when in mufti,
which would clearly mark them as graduates
of the Naval War College. It seems to
have made a hit with all students.

0540

22 September 1972

Dear Mr. Phillips:

It is my understanding that, in accordance with your wishes, the Naval Base Communications office here has sent a dispatch for you to Admiral Richard Rumble in the Second Fleet.

I am now advising you that, if you wish to write to him, this is his address:

Rear Admiral Richard E. Rumble, USN
Staff, Com 2nd Fleet
c/o FPO
New York 06501

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mr. Asa E. Phillips, Jr.
President
Navy League of the United States
Boston Council
53 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109

RWB/vjh

0541

27 September 1972

Dear Jim:

I was glad that I saw you when you were here this last weekend, so that I could explain to you why I cannot write a letter of recommendation for Mr. Linares. In simple language, I don't know him. However, since I have a high regard for you and, since you are one of the big figures in the advertising world, I have already written a letter (copy enclosed) to Captain G. O. Coppedge, the Director of Athletics at the Naval Academy, as I did last year. I will then advise you as to the reaction of the Naval Academy to him.

And now I want to express my personal regrets that I saw so little of you this year; my personal delight that you won the Jones Cup; and my hope that, if you are ever in this area, you will give me a call.

With best regards to you and Tudy, and with hopes that we can do something for your protege, I am, as ever,

Yours sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mr. James B. Orthwein
President
D'Arcy-MacManus International, Inc.
One Memorial Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

RWB/vjh

Enclosure

0542

27 September 1972

Dear Captain:

As you may recall, last year I wrote a letter to you on behalf of a Mr. Kent Linares who wished to enter the Naval Academy as a Midshipman. Mr. Linares was not selected, but has hopes of being selected this year.

I am now in receipt of a letter from Mr. James B. Orthwein (copy enclosed) asking me if I won't help Mr. Linares again. Since Mr. Orthwein is a very able advertising executive as well as a good friend of mine, and since I respect his opinion greatly, I am writing to you to ascertain what can be done about Mr. Linares. Obviously, Mr. Orthwein has great hopes for him.

I hope that our football team measures up to its requirements, and that you won't allow the pressures of your office to overwhelm you.

Here's for Navy victories!

With warmest regards, I am,

Very sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Captain J. O. Coppedge, USN
Director of Athletics
United States Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland 21402

RWB/vjh

Enclosure

0543

29 September 1972

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Thanks for your kind note about my assistance in helping you to send a message to Admiral Rumble. The Communications Office here feels quite confident that he received it and have no knowledge of any reply - at least, as yet. Let's hope that you hear presently!

You are very kind to invite me to visit you, should I get to Boston. Strangely enough, I rarely, if ever, get to Boston or Providence, because I am bogged down here in the Naval War College Foundation, Inc. Nevertheless, I should like to see you. I was with one of your Boston friends on Friday last here - Charles F. Adams - an old friend, who is another Boston patrician.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mr. Asa E. Phillips, Jr.
President
Navy League of the United States
Boston Council
53 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109

RWB/vjh

0544

12 October 1972

Dear Jim:

I have now received today a letter from J.O. Coppedge, Director of Athletics at the U.S. Naval Academy, relative to our friend, Kent Linares. Since the letter is very clear, it is not necessary for me to extract much from it. The most important point stressed by Captain Coppedge is basically the need for Linares to improve his education. He seems to have refused NAPS (I think that this is Naval Academy Preparatory School), and the Naval Academy Foundation. I hope that he has improved his education as recommended by Captain Coppedge in order that he might do honor to you, who have sponsored him, by being selected to be a Midshipman. We will keep you informed.

NEW SUBJECT:

I was distressed to hear of Tudy's operation, but I am very happy to learn that all seems well. I called her today in the Doctor's Hospital and had a very pleasant chat. She is quite a gallant lady!

With best regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mr. James B. Orthwein
D'Arcy-MacManus International Inc.
One Memorial Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

RWB/vjh
Enclosure

0545

13 October 1972

Dear Captain Coppedge:

Thank you very much for your letter dated 3 October with reference to Kent Linares. You are certainly thorough! I have notified Mr. James Orthwein (in St. Louis), who has sponsored him and have sent Mr. Orthwein a copy of your letter. Needless to say, I am very appreciative of your interest. Now it is up to Kent to produce.

NEW SUBJECT:

I hope that you will arrange things so that these six tickets (Robbins, two, and Bates, four) will all be seated with my class (1915), with Admiral "Rip" Strubles and Admiral "Skeeter" Weatherspoon's tickets. Last year something strange happened somewhere, for I did not see any classmates and yet there were supposedly one or more there. I have attended every Army-Navy game since WW II and I wish to see our victory in 1972.

With many thanks, I am,

Very sincerely,

Richard W. Bates'
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Captain J. O. Coppedge, USN
Director of Athletics
Naval Academy Athletic Association
United States Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland 21402

RWB/vjh
Enclosures

0546

16 October 1972

Dear Admiral:

I appreciated the privilege of being your guest at luncheon on Saturday last at the COM/0 in honor of the Board of Advisors. I knew most of the Advisors present very well indeed but you kept them so busy throughout their visit that I could not fit into their limited time schedule. However, I did manage to arrange my seating beside Mr. Sylvan Coleman at the luncheon so that I could discuss the need for investing some more of our Foundation funds into high income bonds.

I enjoyed being at your table and talking to Mr. Carter Brown and others. Later on, I had a chance to talk about the Foundation with Mr. Thomas McKnew, whom I have known for many years, and whom I wish to help me with the National Geographic Foundation as a Corporate Member.

I give you my thanks!

Very sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Vice Admiral Stansfield Turner, USN
President
U.S. Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0547

17 October 1972

Dear Mr. Lamb:

I certainly enjoyed my cruise with you in your magnificent ARGO. What a beautiful ship! Your ARGO pamphlet scarcely does the good ship justice because she is a fine sea boat. This is especially true, because of her stabilizers, which seem to be quite effective. Your exposition to me thereon was very interesting indeed; it is too bad they are not mentioned in the pamphlet.

It was a great pleasure to meet your guests, and it is a truism that they all had a very gala time. It was, of course, a shame that weather conditions were such that you preferred to remain in the Bay, but I think that many of the guests enjoyed it that way.

Your guests were, generally, a very friendly lot and, although of differing backgrounds, they got on admirably with each other. This good will could be traced, in part, to yourself and Mrs. Lamb, to your courteous and efficient staff and, especially, to your stewards' staff; and, in part, to your delicious menus at luncheon and at dinner. Your hors d'oeuvres were equally "tops," especially in the evening when the smoked salmon, the fresh caviar, and the fine shrimps with that wonderful red sauce, swept all before them. Your open bar was also very much enjoyed but not by me, as I am a one-handed drinker - one drink is generally enough.

Of course, as you well know, all of the guests were astonished at the beautiful arrangements for the care of the owners and guests. The staterooms were so well done, that it must be difficult to arise in the morning or at any other time.

0548

Mr. William P. Lamb

17 October 1972
Page 2.

I was very interested in the engineroom, and, especially, with the facilities for repair, which to a naval engineer, are of great importance. I was also interested in the reduction ratio of about two to one. We tested our Navy submarine diesels originally (pre-war) on the diesel powered locomotives to ascertain their reliability.

Finally, I want to say that the whole day's cruise could not have been improved on, and I am very grateful for the privilege of being a guest. Thanks a lot!

With warmest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mr. William P. Lamb
Vice President
Parsons-Jurden Corporation
26 Broadway
New York, New York 10004

RWB/vjh

0549

19 October 1972

Dear Commodore:

Last evening at our Quindecim Club (which is a form of discussion club) here in Newport, we had the good fortune to have selected as our speaker a very well known yachtsman, Mr. Norris D. Hoyt, who is the Rear Commodore for North America for the Royal Scandinavian Yacht Club. Each year at this time, we invite Norrie to be our guest speaker and he always draws a large and enthusiastic audience. His subject is always about the yacht races he has been in that summer and his presentations are as clever and humorous as could be. His slides are really remarkable covering, as they do, both the life aboard the yachts, the seas through which they are sailing, and the ports where the races end.

He was so good last evening, that I thought that he would be a hit in your St. Francis Yacht Club. I therefore asked if he minded my recommending him to you. He seemed delighted and said that he would enjoy such an opportunity. His address is: Kane Avenue, Middletown, Rhode Island 02840, and his phone number is 401-847-7423.

The weather here today is very cold, about freezing, for this time of the year with some rain and some snow but nothing too bad. You are lucky to be in San Francisco, which, while it can be cold and raw, is generally happily livable.

I hope that you have seen my nephew, Nicky Bates - he had quite a time on the ONDINE, from hurricanes to calms and seems to prefer the Pacific. Commodore Kitt of the New York Yacht Club says that they like Nicky very much and call him Batesy after his uncle (meaning me).

My best regards to Marshall Madison and Mack Sutro.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mr. James Michael
Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro
225 Bush Street
San Francisco, California 94104

0550

19 October 1972

Dear Tom:

I was delighted to see you up here in your customary niche in the Advisory Group. You look very well indeed which is gratifying to an old friend.

Our weather today is quite bad! Our temperature ~~has~~ been around 30°-40°F for most of the day, with light rain and snow. Needless to say, we have had an extraordinary year to date. You were fortunate to be here last week instead of this.

I'm feeling pretty good today despite the weather. The North American Rockwell Corporation of El Segundo, California and the Rhode Island Hospital Trust National Bank of Providence, Rhode Island have just joined the Naval War College Foundation as Corporate Members. What impresses me here is the fact that these two firms could hardly be further apart!

With warmest regards,

I am,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Dr. Thomas W. McKnew
Advisory Chairman of the Board
National Geographic Society
Washington, D. C. 20036

RWB/vjh

0551

30 October 1972

Dear Louise:

I have been wondering about you and Edgar since you departed for our National Southern areas, such as Louisiana and Mississippi. And, then, I thought that we have had so many changes up here that I would narrate them to you.

a. Weather - the weather has been up and down but not too bad. While it is true that it got so cold here recently that it snowed - it was the second coldest day of that date in recorded history - it was also true that we have had some fine days. Today is one!

b. Personnel - Practically all of your numerous friends in social Newport have departed for warmer climes. However, some are returning for election night (7 November) and will celebrate the election victories that they voted for. I frankly admit that I am for Mr. Nixon.

1. Marriages: Some of your old friends have merged. Mr. Verner Reed married last week. Ambassador Fraser Wilkins (at the Naval War College) married this past weekend, the widow of an Ambassador (Mrs. Julia Goodyear) and Mr. Hickman Price is about to marry Dorothy, the twin sister of Peggy Frazer.

2. Deaths & Disablements:

(a) Mrs. Gwendolyn Rives fell dead last Monday evening at the Patersons. There were about twelve to fourteen guests having KTs at about six PM when Gwen collapsed.

(b) Mr. Robert Strawbridge, whose wife died some months ago, got a mild stroke, but any stroke is bad.

0552

Mrs. J. Edgar Monroe

30 October 1972

Page 2.

(c) Mr. David Van Pelt, brother of Andy Van Pelt, died recently in Philadelphia. He left one thousand dollars to the Clambake Club. I'm afraid that I need it, because this October is a "big loss" month, as few members are using the club, excepting on our buffet Sundays. One Sunday we had eighty five guests. Last Sunday, thirty-five.

(d) Phyllis Schumacher. I don't know too much about her problem but what I do know is not too good. She seems to have a form of cancer.

3. Operations:

(a) Mrs. James Orthwein, known as Tudy, who was the Marchioness of Hilford Haven, had a breast operation, which was tough. Mrs. Edward Sherman, known as Kirtley, likewise had one.

(b) The latter operation seems to have been easier.

I feel pretty well, although I go to the Naval War College Foundation every working day and I remain there from 0900 to 1700. It is paying off to a degree as I now have 164 Founder Members, of which Edgar is one, and eleven Corporate Members.

With warmest personal regards to you and to Edgar, and with best wishes for a most happy Thanksgiving, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mrs. J. Edgar Monroe
Roscheart
845 East Beach
Pass Christian, Mississippi 39571

RWB/vjh

0553

6 November 1972

Dear Louise:

Since my last letter to you, wherein I recounted the "pleasures and misfortunes of Newport" over the past little while, new events have occurred which may interest you.

a. First and foremost, the Hospital Ball was held in your famous Rosecliff with Meyer Davis providing the music. It proved to be very satisfactory, in part because the ballroom was much larger than at the Elms.

b. We had, on the same night as the ball, a great fire in the Casino block. Fortunately, it was controlled before it reached the Casino, but all of the stores from the La Forge restaurant north toward Memorial Boulevard were destroyed, including the cheese shop.

c. Phyllis Schumacher has returned to Newport and is staying at her mother's house (Mrs. Gillespie's house). Phyllis is not in good shape from cancer, and Mrs. Gillespie is in a coma.

d. Nadine Pepys has returned from England for a visit and looks fine. Betty Dyer gave a supper for her last evening at Farmlands, with about twenty guests. Very pleasant.

e. Tomorrow night is "election night" and we are having the biggest turnout ever. Last year we had forty-eight guests-this year already we have seventy-two.

I hope that this note finds you both in fine fettle and enjoying the warm south. It has been quite cold over the last few days, but now is warming up for Election Day.

Let's hope that Nixon wins handily. With warmest regards-

As ever,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mrs. J. Edgar Monroe
Roseheart
845 East Beach
Pass, Christian, Mississippi 39571

0554

10 November 1972

Dear Peter:

I was very disappointed to learn, from your letter of 26 October '72, that your visit to Annapolis had been so disappointing. It really is too bad that Toni, having arrived at Annapolis, had to come down with a cold. There is little that can be done in such case excepting to "take it easy" and "let Nature take its course."

It was too bad that you did not call the General (Lt. General Pedro del Valle, USMC, retired) as he was likely waiting around at home hoping to be of help. On the other hand, perhaps not, as I have heard nothing from him!

NEW SUBJECT:

I am quite interested in having your real estate firm become a Corporate Member of the Naval War College Foundation, Inc. Don't you think that it might be nice to join before Thanksgiving Day, as then we, here in Newport, would have a Happy Thanksgiving? Wouldn't you like to create such good will?

With best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mr. Peter C. Ausnit
525 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10021

RWB/vjh

0555

21 November 1972

U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association
Alumni House
Annapolis, Maryland

Gentlemen:

Please send me four additional copies of your November issue of *Shipmate* (Vol. 35, Number 9). I am sending you herewith, as an enclosure, a check for two dollars and forty cents (\$2.40) to cover the cost as directed on page one of the above mentioned issue. Please send to me at my home address:

12 Mount Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island 02840.

I notice that *Shipmate* is becoming more and more interesting! Keep it up.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

RWB/vjh
Enclosure

0556

21 November 1972

Dear Charles:

I do not know whether or not I sent you two tickets for the Army-Navy game. But whether I did or not, I am now sending you the six tickets which I promised to send.

As you recall, I have done this every year, because if I don't get there for any reason, you will have the tickets. Under such conditions you may use them as you will. Don't forget that one of these tickets is mine! I will be calling you on the phone.

Warmest regards to you and to your parents. As ever,

Your old friend,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mr. Charles Van Pelt
County Line Road
Box 125
Radnor, Pennsylvania 19087

RWB/vjh

See WP

Row 9

Seat - 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, + 11

0557



NAVAL WAR COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC.

U. S. Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

18 December 1972

Dear Louise:

How wise you and Edgar were to get out of this area this late Fall. Usually Newport is in pretty good shape until about February but here we are with cold as low as 10°F and with strong winds which make the "chill factor" equivalent to -15°F.

Meanwhile, we have lost some more friends. Jimmy Beck died about two weeks ago in Boston, and his sister-in-law, Virginia Carter, is in bad shape from a stroke. On Tuesday, we had the funeral of Irene Gillespie at Trinity. It was a beautiful service with lots of music. On Friday we held the funeral of Hugh Douglas at St. Mary's Episcopal Church on East Main Road. It was a charming, simple service. However, the burial was military with a Marine saluting squad and a bugler for "Taps." On Friday also, we had the funeral of Miss Alice Brayton, who was 92 I think. This funeral, which was held at her home on Corys Lane, Portsmouth, was truly beautiful and very symbolic of her. Her estate, with the hedges etc. carved into various animals, was left to the Preservation Society.

This is not too gay a letter to send to an old friend, but facts are facts, and an old resident like you should know what's going on.

Things are moving along for New Years. The Reading Room will hold their annual dance on New Year's Eve and there will be the annual New Year's Day luncheon. The Reading Room dance may run into competition because there is a strong rumor that the Music Festival will have a dance at the Elms at the same time. Daisy O'Donnell will have her usual New Year's Day cocktail party but now the Edward Shermans are going to give a KT party at the same time at Marble House. We seem to be getting right social.

Trustees

Robert M. Akin, Jr. • Richard W. Bates • John J. Bergen • John Nicholas Brown • Sylvan C. Coleman • Felix W. deWeldon
George L. Michael III • John Monsarrat • John A. Mulcahy • Mary G. Roebling • Richard B. Sheffield • Stansfield Turner

0558

Mr. J. Edgar Monroe

18 December 1972
Page 2.

I have just learned from Mr. Talbot at the Preservation Society that your famous estate Rosecliff with the neighboring land has been leased from 1 April to 1 November for the filming of *The Great Gatsby*. I presume you know all about this, but my friend Talbot said to tell you. This interests me greatly.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas, I am,
as ever,

Your old friend,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mrs. J. Edgar Monroe
Roseheart
845 East Beach
Pass Christian, Mississippi 39571

RWB/vjh

0559

22 December 1972

Dear Eleanor:

I enjoyed receiving your Xmas card of the Reims Cathedral. It is typical of you both that you have high standards in everything you do and your Christmas card reflects this.

Your card also bore a very friendly note telling me not to disappoint you by failing to come to Chicago. Needless to say, I am very anxious to visit with you but - and this is a big but - it does not seem likely that I can make it in January. This is because the Navy Department has suddenly detached my legal assistant and is sending me a new one. As a result, we are having a meeting of our Board of Trustees on 5 January and 5 days later, after our new assistant is somewhat familiar with his new assignment, I plan to depart for my annual visit with the Grosvenor's at Scottsdale. I had hoped to be in Chicago about 5 January but that seems out.

It seems to me that I might do better by visiting Chicago when I return from the Coast - most likely in March/April. Of course, there is a great chance that you won't be there then, but we can work it out somehow.

Newport has had a tough time recently. Not only has the weather been unusually bad but we have lost too many friends. We have recently lost Irene Gillespie, Jimmy Beck, Hugh Douglas and Tommy Robbins, who used to be head of the Naval War College before Slim Ingersoll, as well as Alice Brayton in Portsmouth.

It is a little difficult to write this note as the staff of the foreign officers staff course is celebrating the end of the short course and Christmas holidays. It is very gala!

New Year's, this year will be very gay. New Year's eve we will have two parties - one, the Reading Room party; the other, the Music Festival party at the Elms (alas! both at the same time) and New Year's Day we will have two 6-8 receptions, one, by Daisy O'Donnell at Cave Cliff; the other by the Edward Shermans at Marble House (both also at the same time).

0560

Mrs. William Wood Prince

22 December 1972
Page 2.

Give my very best regards to any friends that may be with you - and as for myself - my sincere regrets that my long hoped for trip is not available as planned. But don't count me out! I'll get there somehow someday.

Finally, I want to thank you for those famous chocolate cookies that you sent me. I'll hide them as my maid enjoys them greatly and, if Santa Claus sees them, he might enjoy them also.

As ever,

0561

26 December 1972

Dear Dick and Prue:

Well, here I am but one day after Christmas. With things very quiet around here, I thought that I would write to you as I promised in my Christmas card to you. But, first of all, I want to tell you about Christmas in Newport. There are not too many of Newport's old guard around and so things are and will continue to be very quiet for the next few days. Then, with the near arrival of New Year's, events will begin to pick up, mostly through KT parties of which there are too many this year with very few, if any, dinners.

As for Christmas cheer, I had dinner with Ambassador Fraser Milkins - a newly wed - so that we had two of his children and two of the bride's children - all grown up as guests - she had been Julia Goodyear - the widow of an Ambassador. I was the only guest outside the family. It was a very pleasant affair. Then, on Christmas Day, I went to Christmas dinner with Dick and Gay Sheffield. In addition to myself, the Sturtevant's (Bobby and Ted) were the only guests. This affair, with three young children, was very amusing because the children themselves were highly excited most of the time and figuratively "raised hell."

New Year's Eve we have two events. One is the Reading Room annual New Year's Eve dance and the other is a dance being given at the Elms by the Music Festival Committee (I think that Anne Brown is back of this). The Albert Shermans are giving a buffet supper before the two affairs.

Then, on New Year's Day there will be the Reading Room annual New Year's Day luncheon - all men. In the afternoon there will be two KT parties, both at the same time, which is too bad. One party is Daisy O'Donnell's usual New Year's Day affair; the other is a KT party at Marble House by the Edward Shermans.

Recently, we have lost some friends in the Newport area. These are: Aline Brayton, Irene Gillespie (mother of Eileen Slocum and Phyllis Schumacher), Jimmy Beck (his sister-in-law, Virginia Carter, is reported to be in bad shape from a stroke), Hugh Douglas and Tommy Robbins (former President of the Naval War College). Phyllis Schumacher is having some serious trouble with cancer.

0562

We had another serious fire in Newport. The Edward Capriano house, formerly the Blair House, almost across the street from Beechmound, burned, and Mrs. Capriano was burned to death.

So much for Newport.

And now for some good news. The dedication of Spruance Hall was a great success. The Speech on strategy by Herman Wouk was not what was expected, but it was challenging and interesting. You will be able to read it in the Naval War College Review. The dinner following this at the COMO was excellent. The next day, at the dedication Admiral Sam Morison and Thomas Buell spoke about Admiral Spruance and were great. Mrs. Spruance was very impressed with everything, as was everyone else. It was a great success!

Spruance Hall is a wonderful building. It is truly beautiful and seems to fill all needs admirably. The bust of Admiral Spruance, made some years ago by Felix deWeldon, is sitting on a stand in the "foyer" and it looks marvelous. Congratulations, Sir!

Conolly Hall is gradually growing into manhood. It must be at least half done, as the contractors are now installing the granite outside facings. I don't like this building as much as I do Spruance Hall. It seems too large for the area. However, we can see better after the building is completed.

The Naval War College courses (the Strategic Course is now completed) seem to be moving along reasonably well. The College is now about to head into the second phase (Management) to be followed later by Tactics. While there are dissidents, they are no where nearly as dissident as they were at the beginning. I cannot discuss what is going on, as I keep out of it, but I am continually stressing the fact that the students (at least many of them) have to be able to solve, adequately, military problems. In other words, they must know how to make an "Estimate of the Situation;" Admiral Turner says that is his basic objective - to develop in the students an ability to use their minds - to reason adequately.

The Foundation is doing fairly well under the circumstances. It is very difficult to obtain funds from corporations, which insist that the Navy should take care of its own War College. This, the Navy cannot do too well as recently the College budget was cut \$200,000.00! Clearly, the civilian world does not seem to understand the manner in which the Pentagon and the Navy, for example, handle their budgets and their budget cuts. They don't seem to understand that, whatever the Pentagon budget funds available are, they must be shared by all services and the Navy's budget must be shared as desired by the CNO.

0563

Admiral and Mrs. Richard G. Colbert

26 December 1972

Page 3.

I hope that you had a very Merry Christmas and will have a very happy and successful New Year. As ever,

Your old friend,

Richard W. Fates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Admiral & Mrs. Richard G. Colbert, USN
Villa Nike
AFSOUTH Box 1
FPO New York 09524

RNB/vjh

0564

29 December 1972

Dear Mr. Phillips:

I received your Christmas card and General Court Bulletin several days ago, and I am very impressed with your new accomplishments such as being Governor General of two famous societies at the same time, even if only for six hours. You and your remarkable wife's careers are surprisingly unusual, as it is very rare indeed for a husband and wife to have the national background that you two have.

Thanks for remembering me! Let me, in return wish you both a very Happy New Year.

Very sincerely,

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
President

Mr. & Mrs. Asa E. Phillips, Jr.
Hilltop
90 Sargent Road
Brookline, Massachusetts 02146

RWB/vjh

NOTE: You certainly fooled us here! For, when we received your letter, we estimated that you had joined the Foundation. So, we looked everywhere throughout the papers you had sent us but to no avail. Alas!

0565